

PUBLIC WORKS
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Public Works

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J A N U A R Y 2 4 , 2 0 1 4

AGING WORKFORCE

- There has been concern in recent years about the aging of the work force in the water industry
- An estimated 30—50% of the current work-force will be retiring in the next 10 years.
- The average retiree has 24 years of experience.

Joe Gillespie,
Director

Mike Lengermann
Supervisor ST &

Russ Parker
Supervisor W & S

Bill Zimmer
Supervisor WRF

Mike Buss
Supervisor WTP

Clint Conrad
Resident Engineer

Sherry Kesner
Admin. Assistant

Water & Wastewater Certification

As the general public may, or may not be aware, many of the jobs preformed by the employees of the Public Works Department require special certification by the State of Illinois. The Illinois EPA issues operator certifications in drinking water and wastewater treatment.

There are four classes of certifications that can be obtained for Drinking Water Operator.



Currently all operators in the Water Distribution Division and at the Water Treatment Plant, as well as the Public Works Director, hold Drinking Water Operator certifications.

All classes of certifications require the operators to pass a test with questions ranging from plumbing math and chemical feed calculations to State and Federal Regulations. Drinking water operator certificates expire after three years and operators are required to obtain a specified amount of training in order to qualify for certificate renewal. Class A and B operators are required to obtain 30 hours of training and Class C and D operators are required to obtain 15 hours of training during the certificate period before the certificate expiration date.

The IEPA also issues certifications to operators for Wastewater Treatment. As with Drinking Water, there are 4 Classes (1-4, 1 being the highest) of Wastewater Treatment certifications. Currently there are no continuing education requirements associated with the Wastewater certification, however that is expected to be changing soon.

The Highland Water Treatment Plant is a Class A plant, and operators at the plant hold a Class A certification. The Water Reclamation Facility is a Class I plant. As with the WTP, all operators at the WRF hold a Class I certification.